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## DEATHS OF FELLOWS OF THE ACADEMY

JOHN ADDISON FORDYCE, A.B., A.M., M.D., Ph.D.

Professor John Addison Fordyce, eminent American dermatologist and syphilologist, died June 4, 1925, two weeks subsequent to an appendectomy, in his 67th year.

Dr. Fordyce was born in Ohio on February 16, 1858. His father, John Fordyce, was born in Pennsylvania, of Scotch ancestors, but he spent most of his life in Ohio where he engaged in extensive business enterprises. His mother, Mary A. Houseman Fordyce, was born in Pennsylvania, of German ancestors. Dr. Fordyce is survived by Mrs. Fordyce, *née* Alice Dean Smith, of New York City, whom he married in 1886, and by their son, Dr. Addison Fordyce, and their daughter, Emma Fordyce Swift, wife of Dr. Homer Swift, of the Rockefeller Institute.

After receiving a common school education, John Addison Fordyce entered Adrian College, Adrian, Mich., where he received the degree of A.B. in 1878, that of A.M. in 1889, and the honorary Ph.D. in 1901. He graduated from the Northwestern University Medical College in 1881, immediately after which he served as intern in the Cook County Hospital (Chicago) until 1883. From this date until 1886 he resided in Hot Springs, Ark., during which time he practiced general medicine and devoted special attention to surgery. The next three years (1886 to 1888, inclusive) were spent in Vienna, Berlin and Paris, studying dermatology, pathology and bacteriology under such masters as Koch, Lassar, Behrend, Kaposi, Fournier, Besnier, Vidal, etc. The degree of M.D. was received from the University of Berlin in 1888.

Dr. Fordyce returned to New York City in 1888, where he at once began the practice of dermatology and genito-urinary diseases. Education, training, common sense, vision, perseverance, unusual ability, hard work, and personality permitted Dr. Fordyce to very quickly rise to the top of his chosen field in this country, and it was not long before he acquired an international reputation. He was Instructor and Lecturer in Dermatology at the New York Polyclinic from 1889 to 1893. In 1889 he became associated with Prince Albert Morrow as Editor of the *Journal of Cutaneous and Genito-Urinary Diseases*. This association was terminated in 1892, after which he was sole Editor for a few years, when James C. Johnston became Associate Editor. He resigned as Editor in 1897, but continued to serve on an Editorial Board (*Journal of Cutaneous Diseases and Syphilis*) until a very few years ago.

In 1893 Dr. Fordyce was appointed Professor of Dermatology in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College. He received the Chair of Dermatology and Syphilology in the New York University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College in 1898, from which position he resigned in 1912 to accept the Chair of Dermatology and Syphilology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, which position he held until his death.

Dr. Fordyce was Visiting Dermatologist to the City Hospital from 1893 until 1925. He was Consulting Dermatologist to the Presbyterian Hospital, Fifth Avenue Hospital, Woman's Hospital, New York Infirmary for Women and Children, and the Neurological Institute. He was Secretary of the American Association of Genito-Urinary Surgeons from 1889 to 1892; President of the American Dermatological Association in 1899; Chairman of the Dermatological Section of the American Medical Association in 1903; Secretary-General of the Sixth International Congress of Dermatology in 1907; President of the New York Dermatological Society; Chairman of the Dermatological Section of the New York Academy of Medicine, etc. At the time of his death he was an active member of all the important dermatological societies of this country. He was an honorary member of the Italian, German and English dermatological societies, and corresponding member of the French and Danish dermatological societies. He was an associate member of the Association for Cancer Research, etc.

Dr. Fordyce was a prolific writer of invaluable articles in his chosen field, his literary contributions numbering well over one hundred, to all of which he gave much skill, time, research and money.

That he was a great teacher is shown by the large number of eminent dermatologists who were trained by him. His organizing ability was demonstrated by the evolution of the largest and best conducted clinic in this country.

In spite of his age, Dr. Fordyce was as professionally active and as thoroughly modern during the last year of his life as at any previous time. He was a cultured man, a gracious host, an inordinate worker, kind, human, tolerant and fair. His clean life, his achievements and his personality caused him to be an inspiration to the younger men. He was loved and respected by his colleagues, friends, contemporaries and subordinates. It was an honor to be associated with him in any capacity. American dermatology has suffered a terrible loss in the death of John Addison Fordyce.

GEORGE MILLER MACKEE